## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

September 29, 1988



ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-132

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ALL COUNTY FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO FOOD STAMP PROGRAM AFFECTING MIGRANT OR SEASONAL

**FARMWORKERS** 

This is to provide County Welfare Departments (CWDs) with advance notice concerning the enactment of the Drought Relief Act which contains two provisions which will affect the determination of eligibility and benefit levels for migrant or seasonal farmworkers. The Federal provisions affecting these households are retroactive for those who applied as of September 1, 1988 or who received an allotment for the month of September. State regulations implementing these provisions will be promulgated after Federal regulations are issued. In the interim, CWDs are encouraged to flag migrant and seasonal farmworker cases so that they are easily retrievable.

The first provision in the Drought Relief Act affects the proration of benefits after a break in participation in the Food Stamp Program for migrant and seasonal farmworkers. The Act requires that these households receive the full allotment for the month of application when the household has participated within 30 days prior to the date of application.

The second provision in the act provides an income exclusion for any emergency PA or GA assistance payment which is provided to a third party on behalf of the migrant or seasonal farmworker household (i.e., vendor payment) while the household is in the job stream (employed in an agriculturally related activity). This assistance may include, but is not limited to, emergency vendor payments for housing or transportation.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Food Stamp/AFDC Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 323-5330.

ROBERT A. HOREL Deputy Director

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